

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

new
SEE 765.84/4542 FOR Telegram #382, 10 am.

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED May 31, 1936.

TO

NAME

1-1127

...

REGARDING: Decree effecting civil and criminal cases in Ethiopia. Italians and all other foreigners come under Italian law as regards rights and duties. Procedure involving subjects in Italian East African colonies and Ethiopian natives, including naturalized whites.

wth

865D.0442 / 1

JS

Plain

ADDIS ABABA Via W R

Dated May 31, 1936

Rec'd 8 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

382, May 31, 10 a.m.

Decree issued by Governor General but text of which I have not yet received provides that in civil and criminal cases Italian subjects and all other foreigners being "on an equal footing as regards rights and duties" come under Italian law. In criminal cases they are tried by Italian judges and appeal lies to Court of Appeals in Rome

Eritreans, Italian Somalis and Libyans are subject to laws of their respective colonies. In penal cases they are tried by Civil Governor of Addis Ababa.

Ethiopian natives are tried according to prevailing local customs and by existing magistrates except that native Moslems are tried by Cadis and Ulemas who apply Sheri laws.

Whites who acquired Ethiopian nationality (for example Armenians, Greeks, Russians, etc.) are tried by the Civil Governor of Addis Ababa.

Full text of decree by mail as soon as obtained.

ENGERT.

ECC

75d. 041
0441
0442
765d. 003
129

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DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 765.84/4542 FOR Telegram #262, 6 pm.

FROM Ethiopia () DATED June 2, 1936.

TO

NAME

1-1127

REGARDING: Decree effecting civil and criminal cases in Ethiopia. If enforced would raise the whole question of extraterritorial rights in Ethiopia and of the treaties conferring those rights on certain foreign Powers.

wth

865D.0442 /2

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 765.84/4609 FOR Telegram #404, 9 am.

FROM Ethiopia (Engert) DATED June 8, 1936.
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Decree effecting civil and criminal cases in Ethiopia. American and British officers see no reason why they should not continue to exercise consular jurisdiction in cases which do not require intervention of local authorities. Special Tribunal has ceased to function.

wth

865D.0442/3

Central File: Decimal File 865D.0442, Internal Affairs Of States, Judicial Branch Of Government., Laws. Statutes. Ordnances. Decrees. Codes. Procedures., Italian East Africa, Civil., May 31, 1936 - June 8, 1936. May 31 - June 8, 1936. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109730840/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.